GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2023
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2007
WORKING DAYS IN HIGH COURTS
Patil Shri Pratik Prakashbapu

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the working days in High Courts are less than the working days in Lower Courts in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to enhance the working days of High Courts for speedy disposal of cases;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the working days of High Courts are likely to be enhanced?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ)

(a)to(e): The working days in the High Courts are regulated by the rules framed by the respective Courts. According to available information, all High Courts in the country normally have 210 working days in a year and the number of working days of the District/Subordinate Courts are regulated by the concerned High Court.
The Department of Justice in July, 2001 had invited the views of the High Courts regarding the number of working days in the High Courts and the curtailment of their vacations. Replies were received from 14 High Courts. The High Court of Uttaranchai increased the number of its working days in a year from 210 to 224 and the High Court of Karnataka from 210 to 214. Jharkhand High Court had no objection to increasing the number of working days.Other High Courts had not favoured increase in the number of their working days in a year.
In the year 2002-2003, this Department had examined the matter of enhancing the number of working days in Courts. In order to reduce the huge pendencies prevailing in the High Courts, this Department addressed to all the High Courts, requesting them to fix the period of vacations in such a way that the number of working days of High Courts generally do not fall below 222 days in a year.